IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 22, wherein the market specification console includes a graphical user interface (GUI) ~~to configure the at least one market protocol~~.

12-21. (Cancelled)

22.   (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a market specification console configured to receive from a user:

a specification of ~~at least one market protocol from a user, the at least one market protocol including:~~ a first market phase, wherein the first market phase is defined by one or more user selectable trading primitives that dictate the behavior of one or more components in a programmable auction server; and

a specification of a succeeding phase, wherein the succeeding phase is defined by one or more user selectable trading primitives that dictate the behavior of one or more components in a programmable auction server; and

a programmable auction server in communication with the market specification console, the programmable auction server configured to:

receive, from the market specification console, ~~the at least one~~ a market protocol comprising the received first and succeeding market phase specifications ~~defined by the market specification console~~, and

manage trading of at least one good auctioned by at least one auction participant in accordance with the protocol.

23.   (Cancelled)

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the first market phase includes an interval in which at least one transaction occurs.

25. (Currently amended) The system of claim 24 wherein the transaction comprises ~~is selected from the group including~~ submitting a bid~~, admitting a bid, withdrawing a bid, and replacing a bid~~.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the first market phase is terminated by a condition.

27. (Currently amended) The ~~universal auction specification~~ system of claim 26 wherein the condition is a time period.

28. (Currently amended) A method of managing the trading of goods auctioned by auction participants comprising:

receiving from a user ~~at least one market protocol from a user, wherein the at least one market protocol includes~~:

a specification of a first market phase, wherein the first market phase is defined by one or more user selectable trading primitives that dictate the behavior of one or more components in a programmable auction server; and

a specification of a succeeding phase, wherein the succeeding phase is defined by one or more user selectable trading primitives that dictate the behavior of one or more components in a programmable auction server; and

managing, using the programmable auction server, trading of at least one good auctioned by at least one auction participant in accordance with [[the]] a market protocol comprising the received first and succeeding market phase specifications ~~protocol~~.

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the ~~at least one market protocol is~~ specification of the first market phase and the specification of the succeeding phase are received via a market specification console that includes a graphical user interface (GUI).

30-31. (Cancelled)

32.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the first market phase includes an interval in which at least one transaction occurs.

33.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the transaction is selected from the group including submitting a bid, admitting a bid, withdrawing a bid, and replacing a bid.

34.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the first market phase is terminated by a condition.

35.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the condition is a time period.

36.   (Currently amended)   A computer program product for managing the trading of goods auctioned by auction participants, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

　　　　receiving, from a user ~~at least one market protocol from a user, wherein the at least one market protocol includes~~:

　　　　　　　　a specification of a first market phase, wherein the first market phase is defined by one or more user selectable trading primitives that dictate the behavior of one or more components in a programmable auction server; and

　　　　　　　　a specification of a succeeding phase, wherein the succeeding phase is defined by one or more user selectable trading primitives that dictate the behavior of one or more components in a programmable auction server; and

　　　　 managing, using the programmable auction server, trading of at least one good auctioned by at least one auction participant in accordance with [[the]] a market protocol comprising the received first and succeeding market phase specifications ~~protocol~~.

37.   (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the ~~at least one market protocol is~~ specification of the first market phase and the specification of the succeeding phase are received via a market specification console that includes a graphical user interface (GUI).

38-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the first market phase includes an interval in which at least one transaction occurs.

41. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 40 wherein the transaction is selected from the group including submitting a bid, admitting a bid, withdrawing a bid, and replacing a bid.

42. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the first market phase is terminated by a condition.

43. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 42 wherein the condition is a time period.

44. (New) The system of claim 24 wherein the transaction comprises admitting a bid.

45. (New) The system of claim 24 wherein the transaction comprises withdrawing a bid.

46. (New) The system of claim 24 wherein the transaction comprises replacing a bid.